

The Election Department has compiled responses to some of the more commonly asked questions it received regarding voting and voter registration.

### **Who can vote?**

If you are a U.S. citizen and will be 18 years old on Election Day, you can vote. You must register 29 days before the election to qualify to vote in that election.

### **How do I change my address if I have moved?**

If you move from your voter registration address, you must change your address with the Election Department. You can either mail your address change to the Clerk & Recorder's Office, or you can update your voter information at one of the Motor vehicle office locations in the state. You may print the Voter Registration form located on the Election Departments main page.

### **I am in the military, where is my "legal voting residence?"**

For voting purposes, your "legal voting residence" can be the county where you last resided prior to entering military service. To claim a new legal residence you must have simultaneous physical presence and the intent to return to that location as your primary residence. Military and family members may change their legal residence every time they change permanent duty stations or they may retain their legal residence without change. Family members may have a different legal voting residence from the member. Be sure to enter the complete address of your legal voting residence, including street or rural route and number, when completing the residence section of the FPCA. Even though you may no longer maintain formal ties such as property ownership to that residence, the address is needed to place you in a proper voting precinct.

### **Are there deadlines to register to vote for an election?**

Yes, you must have register to vote or updated your voter registration if you have moved 29 days prior to an election.

### **I am Unaffiliated, do I have to affiliate if I want to vote in a Primary Election?**

Yes. If you are registered as an Unaffiliated voter in the State of Colorado you must declare a party before being allowed to vote in a Primary Election, this can be done at the polls if you either Early Vote or vote on Election Day. If you request to receive a Mail – In Ballot you must declare when requesting your ballot. At any time after the Primary Election you may complete a form to return to being Unaffiliated.

### **I am registered with a major party can I change my party for the Primary Election?**

Yes, but the Election Department must receive your request to change your party affiliation 29 day prior to the Primary Election. You **can not** change your party on Election Day.

### **Do I have to bring my identification to register to vote?**

No, it is not necessary to present identification when you register to vote in person. If you are a first time voter registering to vote by mail you will need to enclose a copy of one of the following forms of identification:

- ☐ A valid Colorado driver's license.

- ☐ A valid identification card issued by the Department of Revenue.
- ☐ A valid United States passport.
- ☐ A valid employee identification card with a photograph of the eligible elector issued by any branch, department, agency or entity of the United States Government or of this state, or by any county, municipality, board, authority, or other political subdivision of this state.
- ☐ A valid pilot's license issued by the Federal Aviation Administration or other authorized agency of the United States.
- ☐ A valid United States military identification card with a photograph of the eligible elector.
- ☐ A copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that show the name and physical address of the elector.
- ☐ A valid Medicare or Medicaid card issued by the United States Health Care Financing Administration.
- ☐ A certified copy of a birth certificate for the elector issued by the United States.
- ☐ Certified documentation of naturalization.
- ☐ A valid student identification card with a photograph issued by an institution of higher education in Colorado.

Any form of identification that shows the physical address of the eligible elector shall be considered identification only if the address is in the state of Colorado.

### **Do I need to bring my identification when I go to vote (in person)?**

Yes, one of the following forms of identification is required when voting early or at your polling place:

- ☐ A valid Colorado driver's license.
- ☐ A valid identification card issued by the Department of Revenue.
- ☐ A valid United States passport.
- ☐ A valid employee identification card with a photograph of the eligible elector issued by any branch, department, agency or entity of the United States Government or of this state, or by any county, municipality, board, authority, or other political subdivision of this state.
- ☐ A valid pilot's license issued by the Federal Aviation Administration or other authorized agency of the United States.
- ☐ A valid United States military identification card with a photograph of the eligible elector.
- ☐ A copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that show the name and physical address of the elector.
- ☐ A valid Medicare or Medicaid card issued by the United States Health Care Financing Administration.
- ☐ A certified copy of a birth certificate for the elector issued by the United States.
- ☐ Certified documentation of naturalization.
- ☐ A valid student identification card with a photograph issued by an institution of higher education in Colorado.

### **Where do I vote?**

You vote at your precincts designated polling place, which is located in a neighborhood building, usually a school. Facilities must meet the accessibility requirements mandated through the Help America Vote Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act. The Election Department will send you an information card approximately 30 prior to Primary or General Election which will include your polling place location. It is important to know your precinct number and polling place location prior to Election Day, so if you fail to receive your information card or lose it please call the Election Department, 303-621-3127, so that we can give you that information over the phone. There is also a full listing of polling locations located in the 2008 Election Information section of the Election Departments main page.

### **When do I vote?**

Please see the 2008 Election Information section on the Election Departments main page for information on all of your voting options.

### **How can I receive a Mail – In Ballot?**

Requests for a Mail-In Ballot shall be made using the application form furnished by the designated election official or in the form of a letter that includes the applicant's printed name, signature, residence address, mailing address, address where the ballot is to be mailed to, and date of birth. A request for a ballot to be mailed may also be submitted by fax to (303)621-3212. A request for a Mail-In Ballot may be filed any time after January 1 of the year of the election but **not later than the close of business on the seventh day prior to the election**. If the application is made for a primary election ballot, the application shall name the political party with which the applicant is affiliated or wishes to affiliate. If you are applying for a Mail-In Ballot to be mailed and ***you did NOT provide a copy of your ID when you registered to vote by mail, a copy of one of the following forms of identification is REQUIRED to be submitted with your Mail-In Ballot:***

- ☐ A valid Colorado driver's license.
- ☐ A valid identification card issued by the Department of Revenue.
- ☐ A valid United States passport.
- ☐ A valid employee identification card with a photograph of the eligible elector issued by any branch, department, agency or entity of the United States Government or of this state, or by any county, municipality, board, authority, or other political subdivision of this state.
- ☐ A valid pilot's license issued by the Federal Aviation Administration or other authorized agency of the United States.
- ☐ A valid United States military identification card with a photograph of the eligible elector.
- ☐ A copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that show the name and physical address of the elector.
- ☐ A valid Medicare or Medicaid card issued by the United States Health Care Financing Administration.

- ☐ A certified copy of a birth certificate for the elector issued by the United States.
- ☐ Certified documentation of naturalization.
- ☐ A valid student identification card with a photograph issued by an institution of higher education in Colorado.

Ballots are mailed out approximately 30 days prior to each election, if you have not received your ballot 2 weeks before an election call the Election Department.

### **What if I make a mistake on my ballot?**

Call the Elbert County Election Department and request a replacement ballot. One will be mailed to you provided the request is received with sufficient time for mailing. Otherwise, you may pick up a replacement ballot in person at our election office.

### **What if I sign my spouse's Mail – In Ballot envelope?**

Cross out the incorrect signature and put the correct signature. If the ballot has already mailed, contact the office.

### **If I requested a Mail – In Ballot but never returned it can I go Early Vote or vote on Election Day?**

Yes, but please note that if you decide to vote at Early Voting or on Election Day you will be provided a Provisional Ballot, and you must affirm that you requested a Mail – In Ballot and did not and will not vote it.

### **Will my Mail – In Ballot count?**

Absolutely! In the State of Colorado, a vote cast by Mail – In Ballot is counted the same as a vote cast on Election Day or during Early Voting.

### **If I don't vote in or miss any one election will my registration be cancelled?**

No. If you miss voting in any General Election, the Elbert County Election Department will mail you a card stating that you did not vote in that election. By signing and returning the card to the Elbert County Election Department, verifying that you have not moved or made a name change, your voter registration will remain active within Elbert County.